Contents lists available at SciVerse ScienceDirect

## Mathematical and Computer Modelling

journal homepage: www.elsevier.com/locate/mcm



# Product of univalent functions

## Milutin Obradović<sup>a</sup>, Saminathan Ponnusamy<sup>b,\*</sup>

<sup>a</sup> Department of Mathematics, Faculty of Civil Engineering, University of Belgrade, Bulevar Kralja Aleksandra 73, 11000 Belgrade, Serbia
<sup>b</sup> Department of Mathematics, Indian Institute of Technology Madras, Chennai–600 036, India

### ARTICLE INFO

Article history: Received 15 November 2011 Received in revised form 18 January 2012 Accepted 2 September 2012

Keywords: Coefficient inequality Area theorem Radius of univalency Analytic Univalent Starlike functions

## ABSTRACT

Let & denote the class of functions f analytic and univalent in the unit disk |z| < 1 normalized such that f(0) = 0 = f'(0) - 1. In this article the authors discuss the radius of univalence of F(z) = g(z)h(z)/z when g and h belong to certain subsets of &. The paper concludes with the following conjecture. If g,  $h \in \&$ , then F is univalent for |z| < 1/3 and the number 1/3 cannot improved. The conjecture is shown to be true for some subclasses of &, e.g. the class of starlike functions, and the class  $\mathcal{U}$  consisting of functions  $f \in \&$  satisfying the functional inequality

$$\left|f'(z)\left(\frac{z}{f(z)}\right)^2 - 1\right| < 1, \quad |z| < 1.$$

Some other related results are also presented.

© 2012 Elsevier Ltd. All rights reserved.

### 1. Introduction and main results

In what follows,  $\mathbb{D} := \{z \in \mathbb{C} : |z| < 1\}$  the open unit disk in the complex plane  $\mathbb{C}$ . We denote by  $\mathcal{H}$  the space of all functions which are analytic in  $\mathbb{D}$ . Here we think of  $\mathcal{H}$  as a topological vector space endowed with the topology of uniform convergence over compact subsets of  $\mathbb{D}$ . Let  $\mathcal{A}$  denote the family of all functions  $f \in \mathcal{H}$  and normalized by the conditions f(0) = 0 = f'(0) - 1, and set

 $\mathscr{S} = \{ f \in \mathcal{A} : f \text{ is univalent in } \mathbb{D} \}.$ 

A function  $f \in \delta$  is called starlike (with respect to 0), denoted by  $f \in \delta^*$ , if  $tw \in f(\mathbb{D})$  whenever  $w \in f(\mathbb{D})$  and  $t \in [0, 1]$ . A function  $f \in \delta$  that maps the unit disk  $\mathbb{D}$  onto a convex domain is called a convex function. Let  $\mathcal{K}$  denote the class of all functions  $f \in \delta$  that are convex. A function  $f \in \delta$  is said to belong to the class  $\delta^*(\alpha)$ , called *starlike functions of order*  $\alpha$ , if

$$\operatorname{Re}\left(\frac{zf'(z)}{f(z)}\right) > \alpha, \quad z \in \mathbb{D}$$

for some  $\alpha$  with  $0 \le \alpha < 1$ . It is well-known that  $\delta^*(0) \equiv \delta^*$ . Quite a number of results are known for functions from the class  $\delta$  and its subclasses such as  $\delta^*(\alpha)$  and  $\mathcal{K}$  (see [1,2]). Let  $\mathcal{U}(\lambda)$  denote the set of all  $f \in \mathcal{A}$  in  $\mathbb{D}$  satisfying the condition [3,4]

$$|U_f(z)| < \lambda, \qquad U_f(z) = f'(z) \left(\frac{z}{f(z)}\right)^2 - 1 \quad \text{for } z \in \mathbb{D},$$
(1)

\* Corresponding author. Tel.: +91 44 22574615; fax: +91 44 22576615. E-mail addresses: obrad@grf.bg.ac.rs (M. Obradović), samy@iitm.ac.in (S. Ponnusamy).



<sup>0895-7177/\$ –</sup> see front matter 0 2012 Elsevier Ltd. All rights reserved. doi:10.1016/j.mcm.2012.09.004

for some  $\lambda \in (0, 1]$ . It is well-known that  $\mathcal{U} := \mathcal{U}(1)$  is included in  $\mathcal{S}$ , see [5]. It is interesting to observe that the Koebe function belongs to  $\mathcal{U}$  although functions in  $\mathcal{U}$  are not necessarily starlike in  $\mathbb{D}$  (see for example [4,6]). Moreover, since  $\mathcal{U}(\lambda) \subset \mathcal{U}$  for  $\lambda \in (0, 1]$ , functions in  $\mathcal{U}(\lambda)$  are univalent in  $\mathbb{D}$  whenever  $\lambda \in (0, 1]$ . Set

$$\mathcal{U}_2(\lambda) = \{ f \in \mathcal{U}(\lambda) : f''(0) = 0 \}.$$

For convenience, we let  $U_2 = U_2(1)$ . It is known that functions in  $U_2$  are included in the class  $\mathcal{P}(1/2)$ , where

$$\mathcal{P}(1/2) = \{ f \in \mathcal{A} : \operatorname{Re}(f(z)/z) > 1/2 \text{ for } z \in \mathbb{D} \}.$$

We remark that  $\mathcal{K} \subset \mathcal{P}(1/2)$ .

In the foregoing discussion, we say that  $f \in \mathcal{U}(\lambda)$  in the disk |z| < r if the inequality in (1) holds for |z| < r instead of the whole unit disk  $\mathbb{D}$ . In other words, this is equivalent to saying that g defined by  $g(z) = r^{-1}f(rz)$  belongs to  $\mathcal{U}$ , when f belongs to  $\mathcal{U}$  in the disk |z| < r. A similar convention will be followed when we say  $f \in \mathcal{U}_2(\lambda)$  (resp.  $f \in \mathscr{S}^*(\alpha)$  or  $f \in \mathscr{S}$ ) in the disk |z| < r. In recent years, the class  $\mathcal{U}$  and its association with a number of subclasses of  $\mathscr{S}$  together with certain integral transformations have been studied in detail (see [3,4,7–9]).

In this paper the following problem is considered: For  $g \in \mathcal{F}_1 \subset \mathcal{S}$  and  $h \in \mathcal{F}_2 \subset \mathcal{S}$ , consider the function F defined by

$$F(z) = \frac{g(z)h(z)}{z}, \quad z \in \mathbb{D}.$$
(2)

For suitable choices of  $\mathcal{F}_1$  and  $\mathcal{F}_2$ , we determine r so that F is *starlike of order*  $\gamma$  (resp.  $F \in \mathcal{U}$  and  $F \in \mathcal{S}$ ) in the disk |z| < r. Two sharp results are proved (see Theorems 1 and 2). For a non-sharp case (see Theorem 3), we propose a conjecture at the end.

**Theorem 1.** Let  $g \in \delta^*(\alpha)$  and  $h \in \delta^*(\beta)$ , where  $0 \le \alpha + \beta < 1$ . Then the function *F* defined by (2) is starlike of order  $\gamma$  in the disk  $|z| < r_{\gamma}^* = \frac{1-\gamma}{\gamma+3-2(\alpha+\beta)}$ . The result is sharp.

**Proof.** Assume that  $g \in \delta^*(\alpha)$  and  $h \in \delta^*(\beta)$ . Then

$$\frac{zg'(z)}{g(z)} \prec \frac{1 + (1 - 2\alpha)z}{1 - z}, \quad z \in \mathbb{D}.$$

By the subordination principle, it follows that

Re 
$$\frac{zg'(z)}{g(z)} \ge \frac{1 - (1 - 2\alpha)r}{1 + r}$$
,  $|z| = r$ .

A similar inequality holds for h. By the assumptions on g and h, we deduce that  $F(z)/z \neq 0$  in D. From (2), we have

$$\frac{zF'(z)}{F(z)} = \frac{zg'(z)}{g(z)} + \frac{zh'(z)}{h(z)} - 1$$

and so, for |z| = r

$$\operatorname{Re} \frac{zF'(z)}{F(z)} = \operatorname{Re} \frac{zg'(z)}{g(z)} + \operatorname{Re} \frac{zh'(z)}{h(z)} - 1$$
  

$$\geq \frac{1 - (1 - 2\alpha)r}{1 + r} + \frac{1 - (1 - 2\beta)r}{1 + r} - 1$$
  

$$= \frac{1 - (3 - 2(\alpha + \beta))r}{1 + r}$$
  

$$> \gamma \quad \text{for } 0 < r = |z| < \frac{1 - \gamma}{\gamma + 3 - 2(\alpha + \beta)}.$$

To prove sharpness, we consider

$$g(z) = \frac{z}{(1-z)^{2(1-\alpha)}}$$
 and  $h(z) = \frac{z}{(1-z)^{2(1-\beta)}}$ .

Then

$$F(z) = \frac{z}{(1-z)^{4-2(\alpha+\beta)}}$$
 and  $F'(z) = \frac{1+(3-2(\alpha+\beta))z}{(1-z)^{5-2(\alpha+\beta)}}$ 

so that F'(z) = 0 at  $z = -1/(3-2(\alpha + \beta))$  and  $z/F(z) \neq 0$  in  $\mathbb{D}$ . Hence F is locally univalent in  $|z| < r_0^* = 1/(3-2(\alpha + \beta))$  and not in any larger disk. Moreover,

$$\frac{zF'(z)}{F(z)} = \frac{1 + (3 - 2(\alpha + \beta))z}{1 - z}$$

showing that

$$\left.\frac{zF'(z)}{F(z)}\right|_{z=-r} = \frac{1-(3-2(\alpha+\beta))r}{1+r} \le \gamma,$$

if  $r_{\gamma}^* \leq r < 1$ . Thus, *F* is starlike of order  $\gamma$  in  $|z| < r_{\gamma}^*$ , but not in a larger disk. Hence the radius of starlikeness of order  $\gamma$  is sharp.  $\Box$ 

**Corollary 1.** Let  $g \in \delta^*(\alpha)$  and  $h \in \delta^*(\beta)$ . Then the function F defined by (2) belongs to  $\delta^*(\gamma)$ , where  $\gamma = \alpha + \beta - 1$  with  $0 \le \gamma < 1$ . In particular,  $F \in \delta^*$  whenever  $g \in \delta^*(\alpha)$  and  $h \in \delta^*(1 - \alpha)$ . The implication is sharp.

The case  $\alpha = \beta = 1/2$  in Corollary 1 gives that  $F \in \delta^*$  whenever  $g, h \in \delta^*(1/2)$ . Moreover the case  $\alpha = \beta = \gamma = 0$  in Theorem 1 gives the following

**Corollary 2.** Let  $g, h \in \delta^*$ . Then the function F defined by (2) is starlike in the disk  $|z| < \frac{1}{3}$ . The result is sharp.

We recall that  $\mathcal{U} \subsetneq \mathcal{S}$ . Using the power series method, the present authors in [4] considered the following question: *Given a univalent function f*, *is it possible to generate functions in U or in S*<sup>\*</sup>? Usually the method of convolution provides an affirmative answer to such problems. In our next result and corollaries, we actually provide another multiplier method to obtain functions in U. These results may be considered as a counterpart of Corollary 2 for the class U.

**Theorem 2.** Suppose that  $g, h \in U$ . Then the function F defined by (2) belongs to U in the disk  $|z| < \frac{1}{2}$ . The result is sharp.

**Proof.** Suppose that  $g \in \mathcal{U}$ . Then, using the notation of (1), we can write

$$-z\left(\frac{z}{g(z)}\right)' + \frac{z}{g(z)} - 1 = U_g(z) = w(z)$$
(3)

where  $w : \mathbb{D} \to \mathbb{D}$  is analytic in  $\mathbb{D}$ , w(0) = w'(0) = 0. We observe from the classical Schwarz lemma that  $|w(z)| \le |z|^2$ . From (3), it follows easily that

$$\frac{z}{g(z)} = 1 - b_2 z - \int_0^1 \frac{w(tz)}{t^2} dt, \quad b_2 = \frac{g''(0)}{2!},$$

so that

$$\left| \left( \frac{z}{g(z)} \right)^2 g'(z) - 1 \right| \le |z|^2 \quad \text{and} \quad \left| \frac{z}{g(z)} - 1 \right| \le |b_2| \, |z| + |z|^2.$$
(4)

A similar conclusion holds when  $h \in \mathcal{U}$ . That is,

.

$$\left| \left( \frac{z}{h(z)} \right)^2 h'(z) - 1 \right| \le |z|^2 \quad \text{and} \quad \left| \frac{z}{h(z)} - 1 \right| \le |c_2| \, |z| + |z|^2 \tag{5}$$

where  $c_2 = h''(0)/2$ . Since the functions  $g, h \in \mathcal{U}$  are univalent, from the definition of  $F, F(z)/z \neq 0$  in  $\mathbb{D}$  and

$$\frac{zF'(z)}{F(z)} = \frac{zg'(z)}{g(z)} + \frac{zh'(z)}{h(z)} - 1$$

and so, we obtain

.

$$\left(\frac{z}{F(z)}\right)^2 F'(z) - 1 = \frac{zg'(z)}{g(z)}\frac{z^2}{g(z)h(z)} + \frac{zh'(z)}{h(z)}\frac{z^2}{g(z)h(z)} - \frac{z^2}{g(z)h(z)} - 1$$

and thus, the last expression can be rewritten as

$$U_F(z) = \left( \left( \frac{z}{g(z)} \right)^2 g'(z) - 1 \right) \frac{z}{h(z)} + \left( \left( \frac{z}{h(z)} \right)^2 h'(z) - 1 \right) \frac{z}{g(z)} - \left( \frac{z}{g(z)} - 1 \right) \left( \frac{z}{h(z)} - 1 \right).$$

We want to determine the disk |z| < r on which the condition  $|U_F(z)| \le 1$  holds. Now, we see that  $|U_F(z)| \le 1$  holds in the disk |z| < r if the inequality

$$\left| \left( \frac{z}{g(z)} \right)^2 g'(z) - 1 \right| \left| \frac{z}{h(z)} \right| + \left| \left( \frac{z}{h(z)} \right)^2 h'(z) - 1 \right| \left| \frac{z}{g(z)} \right| + \left| \frac{z}{g(z)} - 1 \right| \left| \frac{z}{h(z)} - 1 \right| \le 1$$

$$\tag{6}$$

holds in the disk |z| < r. As functions in  $\mathcal{U}$  are univalent, the Bieberbach estimate for the second coefficient of the univalent function g gives that  $|b_2| \le 2$  (cf. [1,2]). Similarly,  $|c_2| \le 2$  as  $h \in \mathcal{U}$ . Using these conditions and (4) and (5), we see that the inequality (6) holds, if

$$3|z|^4 + 8|z|^3 + 6|z|^2 = (1 + |z|)^3(3|z| - 1) + 1 \le 1.$$

Thus, the function *F* is in the class  $\mathcal{U}$  in the disk |z| < 1/3.

In order to prove sharpness, we consider  $g(z) = h(z) = z/(1-z)^2$ . Then  $g, h \in U$  and the corresponding F gives that

$$\left| \left( \frac{z}{F(z)} \right)^2 F'(z) - 1 \right| = |z|^2 |3z^2 - 8z + 6|.$$

It follows that

.

$$\left| \left( \frac{z}{F(z)} \right)^2 F'(z) - 1 \right|_{z = -r} = (1+r)^3 (3r-1) + 1 \ge 1,$$

if  $\frac{1}{3} \le r < 1$ . It is important to point out that F(z) = g(z)h(z)/z is not even univalent in the disk of radius more than 1/3. Thus, the number 1/3 is also sharp for the univalence of F.  $\Box$ 

In the proof of Theorem 2, we have used the estimate  $|b_2| \le 2$  and  $|c_2| \le 2$ . However, there are many interesting situations where  $|b_2|$  and  $|c_2|$  are smaller than 2. In such cases, Theorem 3 may be stated in an improved form. In fact, in this case *F* defined by (2) belongs to  $\mathcal{U}$  in  $|z| < r_0$  if  $r_0$  is the smallest positive root of the equation

$$3|z|^4 + 2(|b_2| + |c_2|)|z|^3 + (2 + |b_2| |c_2|)|z|^2 - 1 = 0$$

in the unit interval (0, 1). In particular, if  $g, h \in U_2$ , then we have  $b_2 = c_2 = 0$  and so we get  $r_0 = \sqrt{3}/3 \approx 0.57735$  and thus, we obtain that  $F \in U_2$  in the disk  $|z| < \sqrt{3}/3$ . More precisely, we have

**Corollary 3.** Suppose that  $g, h \in U_2$ . Then the function F defined by (2) belongs to  $U_2$  in the disk  $|z| < \sqrt{3}/3$ .

In fact a slightly general result may now be stated without proof as it follows easily.

**Corollary 4.** Suppose that  $g \in U_2(\lambda)$  and  $h \in U_2(\lambda')$ . Then F defined by (2) belongs to  $U_2(\mu)$  in the disk |z| < r, where

$$r = \sqrt{\frac{2\mu}{\lambda + \lambda' + \sqrt{(\lambda + \lambda')^2 + 12\mu\lambda\lambda'}}}$$

In particular, by a proper choice of  $\lambda'$  in this corollary, we can easily obtain the following

**Corollary 5.** If  $g \in U_2(\lambda)$  and  $h \in U_2((1-\lambda)/(1+3\lambda))$ , then F defined by (2) belongs to  $U_2$ . In particular, if  $g, h \in U_2(1/3)$ , then  $F \in U_2$  and hence F is univalent in  $\mathbb{D}$ .

For the proof of the next result, we need the following lemma.

**Lemma A.** Let  $\phi(z) = 1 + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} b_n z^n$  be a non-vanishing analytic function on  $\mathbb{D}$  and let f be of the form  $f(z) = z/\phi(z)$ . (a) If the condition

$$\sum_{n=2}^{\infty} (n-1)|b_n| \le \lambda$$

holds for some  $\lambda \in (0, 1]$ , then  $f \in \mathcal{U}(\lambda)$ . (b) If the condition

$$\sum_{n=2}^{\infty} (n-1)|b_n| \le 1 - |b_1|$$

holds, then  $f \in \mathscr{S}^*$ .

The conclusion (a) in Lemma A is from [3,8] whereas (b) is due to Reade et al. [10, Theorem 1].

**Theorem 3.** Let  $g, h \in \mathcal{S}$ . Then the function F defined by (2) belongs to the class  $\mathcal{U}$  in the disk  $|z| < r_0$ , where  $r_0 \approx 0.30294$  is the smallest positive root of the equation

$$6r^{2} + 2\left(\sqrt{2} + 4\right)r^{3} + \frac{2r^{4}\sqrt{3 - 2r^{2}}}{1 - r^{2}} + 4r^{2}\left(\frac{r^{2}(6r^{2} - 1 - 4r^{4})}{(1 - r^{2})^{2}} + \log\left(\frac{1}{1 - r^{2}}\right)\right)^{\frac{1}{2}} + \frac{r^{4}(3 - 2r)}{(1 - r)^{2}} - 1 = 0$$

in the interval (0, 1).

**Proof.** The proof relies on the Area theorem. Let  $g, h \in \mathcal{S}$ . Then, z/g and z/h can be expressed as

$$\frac{z}{g(z)} = 1 + b_1 z + b_2 z^2 + \cdots$$
 and  $\frac{z}{h(z)} = 1 + c_1 z + c_2 z^2 + \cdots, z \in \mathbb{D}$ 

First, we observe that  $b_1 = -g''(0)/2$  and  $c_1 = -h''(0)/2$ . By the Bieberbach theorem, it follows that  $|b_1| \le 2$  and  $|c_1| \le 2$ . Moreover, since  $g, h \in \mathcal{S}$ , the well-known Area theorem (see [2, Theorem 11 on p. 193 of Vol. 2]) due to Gronwall gives

$$\sum_{n=2}^{\infty} (n-1)|b_n|^2 \le 1 \quad \text{and} \quad \sum_{n=2}^{\infty} (n-1)|c_n|^2 \le 1.$$
(7)

In particular,

$$\sum_{n=2}^{\infty} |b_n|^2 \le 1 \quad \text{and} \quad \sum_{n=2}^{\infty} |c_n|^2 \le 1.$$
(8)

From the definition of *F* and the power series representations of z/g and z/h, we have

$$\frac{z}{F(z)} = (1 + b_1 z + b_2 z^2 + \cdots) (1 + c_1 z + c_2 z^2 + \cdots)$$
  
=  $1 + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} B_n z^n.$  (9)

Comparison of the coefficients  $z^n$  on both sides of the last equations gives

$$B_n = \sum_{k=0}^n b_k c_{n-k}$$

where  $b_0 = c_0 = 1$ . From the last relation and (8), we obtain

$$|B_2| \le |b_2 + c_2| + |b_1| |c_1| \le |b_2| + |c_2| + |b_1| |c_1| \le 2 + |b_1| |c_1|,$$

and, since  $|b_3| \le 1/\sqrt{2}$  and  $|c_3| \le 1/\sqrt{2}$  by (7), it follows that

$$|B_3| \le |b_3 + c_3| + |b_1c_2 + b_2c_1| \le \sqrt{2} + (|b_1| + |c_1|).$$

Finally, for  $n \ge 4$  we see that

$$\begin{aligned} |B_{n}| &\leq |b_{0}| |c_{n}| + |b_{1}| |c_{n-1}| + |b_{n-1}| |c_{1}| + |b_{n}| |c_{0}| + \sum_{k=2}^{n-2} |b_{k}| |c_{n-k}| \\ &\leq |b_{n}| + |c_{n}| + |c_{1}| |b_{n-1}| + |b_{1}| |c_{n-1}| + \left(\sum_{k=2}^{n-2} |b_{k}|^{2}\right)^{1/2} \left(\sum_{k=2}^{n-2} |c_{k}|^{2}\right)^{1/2} \\ &\leq |b_{n}| + |c_{n}| + |c_{1}| |b_{n-1}| + |b_{1}| |c_{n-1}| + 1, \quad (by (8)). \end{aligned}$$

Here the second inequality is a consequence of Cauchy–Schwarz inequality. Now, we consider *G* defined by  $G(z) = r^{-1}F(rz)$  ( $0 < r \le 1$ ) so that, by (9),

$$\frac{z}{G(z)} = 1 + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} B_n r^n z^n.$$

Now we apply Lemma A and show that  $G \in \mathcal{U}$ . Thus, to complete the proof, it suffices to show that

$$S := \sum_{n=2}^{\infty} (n-1)|B_n|r^n = |B_2|r^2 + 2|B_3|r^3 + T \le 1 \quad \text{for } 0 < r \le r_0.$$

In view of the inequality (10), we see that

$$T := \sum_{n=4}^{\infty} (n-1)|B_n|r^n \le T_1 + T_2 + |c_1|T_3 + |b_1|T_4 + T_5 = R$$

(10)

with

$$T_1 = \sum_{n=4}^{\infty} (n-1)|b_n|r^n, \qquad T_2 = \sum_{n=4}^{\infty} (n-1)|c_n|r^n, \qquad T_3 = \sum_{n=4}^{\infty} (n-1)|b_{n-1}|r^n,$$
  
$$T_4 = \sum_{n=4}^{\infty} (n-1)|c_{n-1}|r^n, \quad \text{and} \quad T_5 = \sum_{n=4}^{\infty} (n-1)r^n = \frac{r^4(3-2r)}{(1-r)^2}.$$

Then an appropriate good upper bound for the sum *S* is required to complete our investigation. Since

$$|B_2|r^2 + 2|B_3|r^3 \le (2 + |b_1c_1|)r^2 + 2\left(\sqrt{2} + |b_1| + |c_1|\right)r^3,$$

it follows that

$$S \leq (2 + |b_1c_1|)r^2 + 2\left(\sqrt{2} + |b_1| + |c_1|\right)r^3 + R,$$

where R is as above. The proof will be completed once we get an upper bound for the sum R. Using the Cauchy–Schwarz inequality and (7), we see that

$$T_{1} \leq \left(\sum_{n=4}^{\infty} (n-1)|b_{n}|^{2}\right)^{\frac{1}{2}} \left(\sum_{n=4}^{\infty} (n-1)r^{2n}\right)^{\frac{1}{2}}$$
$$\leq \left(\sum_{n=4}^{\infty} (n-1)r^{2n}\right)^{\frac{1}{2}} = \frac{r^{4}}{1-r^{2}}\sqrt{3-2r^{2}} \quad \text{(by using the sum for } T_{5}\text{)}.$$

Again, by the Cauchy–Schwarz inequality,

$$\begin{split} T_{3} &= \sum_{n=4}^{\infty} \sqrt{n-2} |b_{n-1}| \frac{(n-1)r^{n}}{\sqrt{n-2}} \\ &\leq \left( \sum_{n=4}^{\infty} (n-2) |b_{n-1}|^{2} \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} \left( \sum_{n=4}^{\infty} \frac{(n-1)^{2}r^{2n}}{n-2} \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} \\ &\leq \left( \sum_{n=4}^{\infty} \frac{(n-1)^{2}r^{2n}}{n-2} \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} \\ &= \left( \sum_{n=4}^{\infty} \left( n + \frac{1}{n-2} \right) r^{2n} \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} \\ &= r \left( \frac{1}{(1-r^{2})^{2}} - 1 - 2r^{2} - 4r^{4} + r^{2} \log \frac{1}{1-r^{2}} \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} \\ &= r^{2} \left( \frac{r^{2}(6r^{2} - 1 - 4r^{4})}{(1-r^{2})^{2}} + \log \left( \frac{1}{1-r^{2}} \right) \right)^{\frac{1}{2}}. \end{split}$$

Because of the symmetry in the expression, similar inequalities hold for the sums  $T_2$  and  $T_4$ . From the above computations, it follows that  $S \le 1$  if

$$(2+|b_1c_1|)r^2+2\left(\sqrt{2}+|b_1|+|c_1|\right)r^3+R\leq 1.$$

The inequality clearly holds whenever

$$\begin{split} T(|b_1|, |c_1|) &:= (2 + |b_1c_1|)r^2 + 2\left(\sqrt{2} + |b_1| + |c_1|\right)r^3 + \frac{2r^4\sqrt{3 - 2r^2}}{1 - r^2} \\ &+ (|b_1| + |c_1|)r^2\left(\frac{r^2(6r^2 - 1 - 4r^4)}{(1 - r^2)^2} + \log\left(\frac{1}{1 - r^2}\right)\right)^{\frac{1}{2}} + \frac{r^4(3 - 2r)}{(1 - r)^2} \leq 1. \end{split}$$

Recall that  $|b_1| \le 2$  and  $|c_1| \le 2$  and therefore, for  $S \le 1$ , it is clearly sufficient to show that  $T(2, 2) \le 1$ . Thus,  $S \le 1$  for  $0 < r \le r_0$ , where  $r_0 \approx 0.30294$  is the smallest positive root of the equation T(2, 2) = 1 as in the statement.  $\Box$ 

798

**Corollary 6.** Let  $g, h \in \mathcal{S}$  such that g''(0) = 0. Then the function F defined by (2) belongs to the class  $\mathcal{U}$  in the disk  $|z| < r_0$ , where  $r_0 \approx 0.384622$  is the smallest positive root of the equation

$$2r^{2} + 2\left(\sqrt{2} + 2\right)r^{3} + \frac{2r^{4}\sqrt{3 - 2r^{2}}}{1 - r^{2}} + 2r^{2}\left(\frac{r^{2}(6r^{2} - 1 - 4r^{4})}{(1 - r^{2})^{2}} + \log\left(\frac{1}{1 - r^{2}}\right)\right)^{\frac{1}{2}} + \frac{r^{4}(3 - 2r)}{(1 - r)^{2}} - 1 = 0$$

in the interval (0, 1).

**Proof.** Following the proof of Theorem 3 and the notation,  $S \le 1$  whenever  $T(0, 2) \le 1$ . We see that  $r_0 \approx 0.384622$  is the smallest positive root of the equation T(0, 2) = 1 and the proof is complete.  $\Box$ 

**Corollary 7.** Let  $g, h \in \mathcal{S}$  such that g''(0) = h''(0) = 0. Then the function F defined by (2) belongs to the class  $\mathcal{U}$  in the disk  $|z| < r_0$ , where  $r_0 \approx 0.435895$  is the smallest positive root of the equation

$$2r^{2} + 2\sqrt{2}r^{3} + \frac{2r^{4}\sqrt{3-2r^{2}}}{1-r^{2}} + \frac{r^{4}(3-2r)}{(1-r)^{2}} - 1 = 0$$

in the interval (0, 1). Moreover, F is starlike in the disk  $|z| < r_0$ .

**Proof.** Again, the proof of Theorem 3 shows that  $S \le 1$  whenever  $T(0, 0) \le 1$ . It follows that  $r_0 \approx 0.43589$  is the smallest positive root of the equation T(0, 0) = 1 and the proof of the first part is complete. Because g''(0) = h''(0) = 0, we have F''(0) = 0 and therefore, the starlikeness of *F* in the disk  $|z| < r_0$  is a consequence of Lemma A(b).  $\Box$ 

As in the case of Corollary 2, the choice  $g(z) = h(z) = z/(1-z)^2$  supports the following

**Conjecture.** If  $g, h \in \mathcal{S}$ , then the function F defined by (2) is univalent in the disk  $|z| < \frac{1}{3}$ . The number 1/3 cannot be improved since it is attained when both g and h represent the Koebe function  $k(z) = z/(1-z)^2$ .

Also sharp versions of the last two corollaries remain open.

## Acknowledgment

The work of the second author was supported by MNZZS Grant, No. ON174017, Serbia.

### References

- P.L. Duren, Univalent Functions, in: Grundlehren der mathematischen Wissenschaften, vol. 259, Springer-Verlag, New York, Berlin, Heidelberg, Tokyo, 1983.
- [2] A.W. Goodman, Univalent Functions, Vols. 1-2, Mariner, Tampa, Florida, 1983.
- [3] M. Obradović, S. Ponnusamy, New criteria and distortion theorems for univalent functions, Complex Var. Theory Appl. 44 (2001) 173–191.
- [4] M. Obradović, S. Ponnusamy, Univalence and starlikeness of certain integral transforms defined by convolution of analytic functions, J. Math. Anal. Appl. 336 (2007) 758–767.
- [5] L.A. Aksentiev, Sufficient conditions for univalence of regular functions, Izv. Vyssh. Uchebn. Zaved. Mat. 3 (1958) 3–7. (Russian).
- [6] R. Fournier, S. Ponnusamy, A class of locally univalent functions defined by a differential inequality, Complex Var. Elliptic Equ. 52 (1) (2007) 1-8.
- [7] M. Obradović, S. Ponnusamy, On certain subclasses of univalent functions and radius properties, Rev. Roumaine Math. Pures Appl. 54 (4) (2009) 317–329.
- [8] M. Obradović, S. Ponnusamy, V. Singh, P. Vasundhra, Univalency, starlikesess and convexity applied to certain classes of rational functions, Analysis (Munich) 22 (3) (2002) 225–242.
- [9] M. Obradović, S. Ponnusamy, Coefficient characterization for certain classes of univalent functions, Bull. Belg. Math. Soc. Simon Stevin 16 (2009) 251–263.
- [10] M.O. Reade, H. Silverman, P.G. Todorov, On the starlikeness and convexity of a class of analytic functions, Rend. Circ. Mat. Palermo 33 (1984) 265–272.